

securing Federal benefits; solving tax return problems; and acquiring service records, passports, and military service-connected disability compensation.

I thank Sharon so much for everything that she has done for Ohio's Eighth District. May she enjoy her well-earned retirement.

REMEMBERING BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES MCGEE

(Ms. PRESSLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. PRESSLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of legendary retired Air Force Brigadier General Charles McGee, who peacefully departed on the morning of January 16, 2022. He was 102 years young and one of the last surviving Tuskegee Airmen.

Charles McGee lived a full and beautiful life of bravery and perseverance. He was the embodiment of hope and service.

As a Tuskegee Airman, he made history as one of the first Black military aviators, breaking the color barrier in the armed services during World War II and flying 409 fighter combat missions in three wars.

In addition to his life of service, Mr. McGee created an enduring legacy through the family that he grew. He married the love of his life, Ms. Frances Nelson, in April 1942. The two would go on to be married for more than 50 years.

He is survived by his 3 children, Charlene, Ronald, and Yvonne; 10 grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Black history is American history, and Charles McGee is an American hero. General McGee's legacy will live on through the pages of our history, the incredible family he created, and the lives he touched, including my own.

Mr. Speaker, to our General, our beloved Papa Gee, I pray that he rests in peace and power, reunited with his love, Frances, with the wind forever at his back and the clearest blue skies ahead.

REMEMBERING DWIGHT L. CLEMENTS

(Mr. FORTENBERRY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to speak about a great Nebraskan and a great American. His name is Dwight L. Clements. He died last week at 102 years old.

Dwight Clements was born in Elmwood, Nebraska, and he went on to study at the University of Nebraska and got a degree in business.

But this is the interesting part, Mr. Speaker: His education was disrupted by World War II, where he served as an Army combat engineer in France until the war ended in 1945.

After the war, Dwight earned his law degree at the University of Nebraska and then returned to small-town Elmwood to work at the family-owned American Exchange Bank and to join the law firm with his father, Clements Law Firm. He continued in banking and law until he retired in 1985.

But this is the point, Mr. Speaker: Dwight Clements was a humble, dutiful, small-town Nebraskan. But as a member of the Greatest Generation, he served something far larger than himself. Through his sense of duty, selflessness, sacrifice, and patriotism, he represented the kind of person that not only holds Nebraska together but holds America together.

May he rest in peace.

RECOGNIZING THORNTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Mr. PERLMUTTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Thornton Fire Department in Thornton, Colorado, for earning the 2021 Congressional Fire Services Institute's Masimo Excellence in Fire Service-Based EMS Award, which is given annually to the top fire department in the country.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Thornton Fire Department has gone above and beyond to serve their community. As part of their efforts, they created a Pandemic Response Team that has conducted over 20,000 COVID tests for public employees, senior citizens, first responders, and other community members. When vaccines became available, the Pandemic Response Team expanded their services to administer over 80,000 vaccinations at drive-through sites for city employees and other community members.

The Pandemic Response Team's success led other fire agencies around the country to look to Thornton as a model for how to effectively respond to the challenges of COVID-19.

In a very difficult year for fire and emergency services, the Thornton Fire Department's innovative approach to a rapidly changing public health crisis is something we should all thank them for and model.

FACING FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC WEAKNESS

(Mr. CAREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as our Nation faces major foreign and domestic challenges brought on by the weakness of the Biden administration.

The border crisis, the botched withdrawal from Afghanistan, the failure to hold China accountable, the green-lighting of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline, and "minor incursion" remarks have sent signals of weakness to our global

adversaries. That weakness is now being tested as Russian aggression threatens the sovereignty of our strategic partners in Ukraine.

This threat to Ukraine is also a threat to democracy. Ukraine needs our support to defend itself. That means sending a strong signal by supporting more military and security equipment, as well as immediate financial, economic, and energy sanctions against the Russians.

At this time, our national sovereignty has been betrayed by the administration. Illegal immigrants and drugs are flowing across the southern border at a record pace.

We must act to secure our borders and support Ukraine. Failure to do so will weaken our national security for years to come.

ADDRESSING AMERICA'S FENTANYL CRISIS

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, last year, more than 100,000 Americans died from drug overdoses, 60 percent of them from fentanyl. These were mothers and fathers. They were relatives, neighbors, friends. One was my nephew Eli.

Eli died from an unintentional fentanyl overdose, using a legal herbal supplement that had been laced with fentanyl. He would have turned 21 tomorrow.

What happened to Eli is not unique. Young people on social media who think that they are buying Adderall or Xanax are being sold fentanyl-contaminated counterfeits.

It is the responsibility of every Member of Congress to acknowledge that fentanyl is killing our constituents everywhere in America.

We know that the chemicals to develop these drugs originate in China. They are shipped to Mexico and flood our country.

We know that social platforms are capable of changing their algorithms to cut dealers' access to buyers, and we know that fentanyl test strips save lives but remain illegal in too many States.

Mr. Speaker, we can address these challenges. It is how we ensure that our kids, other kids like Eli, aren't lost and don't miss the opportunity to celebrate their 21st birthday.

RECOGNIZING TURNER SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. FEENSTRA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FEENSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Turner Syndrome Awareness Month and my constituent, Nicole Cleveland, for bringing attention to this little-known disease.

At birth, Nicole was diagnosed with TS and was told she may never walk.

She did. Nicole was told that she would never go to college. She did. She graduated from Morningside University with a degree in political science and journalism.

But Nicole did not stop there. She went on to be the youngest woman ever elected to the Sergeant Bluff City Council and will be releasing her first book this spring called "The Butterfly Chronicles."

Now, she commits her time and talent to advocating for the more than 70,000 American women and girls who have TS.

In conjunction with her advocacy, I will soon be introducing a bill, the Protecting Girls with Turner Syndrome Act, to criminalize the abortion of any baby diagnosed with TS because my faith teaches me that every person is created for a purpose, and Nicole was certainly created as a special one.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Nicole for bringing awareness of TS and sharing her message of optimism and hope with so many people.

EXTENDING THE CHILD TAX CREDIT

(Ms. BROWN of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for an extension of the critical child tax credit.

Here is the truth: Before expiring at the end of 2021, the expanded child tax credit was working. Payments lowered hunger. They kept nearly 4 million children out of poverty. And they helped countless people make ends meet.

The child tax credit was a critical lifeline for more than 35 million American families. This includes more than 70,000 in my district, which has some of the highest poverty in America.

Shaneice, a mother of three from Cleveland, used the payments to pay rent and afford basic necessities. But now, 2 months after the payments stopped, Shaneice says she is just getting by, and she is looking for side jobs to support her family.

It is time to extend the child tax credit. We cannot—we must not—let families down.

CATCHING BENGALS FEVER

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, greater Cincinnati is in the grips of Bengals fever.

From pep rallies at Paul Brown Stadium, to celebrations at bars and restaurants, and at home, to wall-to-wall coverage on the nightly news, everyone is celebrating the Bengals' third trip to the Super Bowl.

In that spirit, the city of Cheviot, on Cincinnati's west side, just renamed a number of streets after Bengals play-

ers. Cheviot residents will be driving down Joe Burrow Way rather than Harrison Avenue and Chase Drive instead of Glenmore Avenue.

It reminds me of the last time the Bengals went to the Super Bowl, back in 1989. Yes, it has been a while. We faced legendary 49ers quarterback Joe Montana for the second time at the Super Bowl. I was on the Cincinnati City Council at the time, and Montana Avenue became Esiason Street—that is Boomer Esiason, the Bengals quarterback—all in good fun, of course.

Well done, Cheviot. And I will just close with this: Who Dey.

CELEBRATING MINNESOTA WINTERS

(Mr. PHILLIPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, Minnesota is known for our winters. Most think we endure them, but the truth is, we celebrate them. From ice fishing to pond hockey to skiing, we love our snow and ice.

That is why I rise today to honor the 23 Minnesotans representing Team USA at this year's winter games.

Despite a population of under 6 million people, Minnesota sent more athletes to the Olympics than 49 of our 50 States and 61 of the 91 nations at the Olympics.

Five of those athletes hail from the district I represent, Minnesota's Frozen Third, including Jake Brown, Brock Faber, Dani Cameranesi, Grace Zumwinkle, and Kelly Pannek.

This is the first winter games in history to rely on almost 100 percent artificial snow, and if climate change continues to accelerate, few cities in the world will have enough snow to host future Winter Olympic Games.

Countless jobs in my district rely on snow and winter, like those at Strata Systems, which helped design the sleds for our luge team, and Polaris, the iconic snowmobile maker. We need to keep the North cold all around the world, and I invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to help us do so.

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CALIFORNIA'S HIGH-SPEED RAIL COSTS HAVE SKYROCKETED

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, California's high-speed rail has issued a new draft business plan for the year 2022 that was released yesterday. It shows now a new price tag of \$105 billion, which is an increase of \$5 billion over the last plan we just received not too long ago.

Now, the original price that voters agreed to back in 2008 when it was placed on the ballot in front of them was a \$33 billion, not \$105 billion, plan.

Notably, it will now install a second rail between the towns of Merced and Bakersfield. Two tracks; two tracks that won't actually travel at high speeds because they can't get up to speed in that amount of distance. Two tracks that will be calling, I guess, ghost passengers for people that aren't going to be using this project anyway between Bakersfield and Merced.

Every transit agency in the country ought to be looking at this plan to see how it works. We need to be building water storage; we need to be spending money on forestry, because our forests burn every year, instead of this boondoggle, which continues to be a rat hole of good money for a project that isn't helping anybody.

REMEMBERING CAROLYN COLEMAN

(Ms. MANNING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the late Commissioner Carolyn Coleman, a loving mother, grandmother, and a remarkable trailblazer for civil rights.

She had a lifelong commitment to activism, from her first heroic actions at the Savannah sit-in, to her years of advising Governor Hunt on legislation to benefit minorities. She made history as Guilford County's first African-American chairwoman in 2005, where she continued to serve her community for the next two decades.

Commissioner Coleman recently earned the North Carolina Association of Black County Officials Frederick Douglass award for her work feeding the community during the pandemic, a testament to her unwavering commitment to service.

She was never the center of attention, but when she spoke, all eyes immediately went to her. Her thoughtful words had the power to change minds and encourage others to join her calls to action. Her influence made a consistent and admirable impact on the community.

Carolyn Coleman paved the way for progress, with a kind heart and a relentless spirit. She will be deeply missed by the Triad community, but she leaves behind an incredible legacy and a loving family. May her memory be a blessing for all who knew her.

PRESSURE TO USE CERTAIN COVID DRUGS

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, as we break here for a recess, it is important to remember that COVID is still a very serious threat, and a little under 2,000 people a day are dying of it.

I have been contacted by medical professionals in my district who feel there is too much pressure to use